

Old Country Customs Can Be Carried Too Far Here, So Son of Italy Pays \$15

Amputating a Cat's Tail to Cure Its Mange Is All Right in the Land of Spaghetti and Chianti, but It Don't Go in This Country, as Joe Discovers When He Runs Against the Society for the Prevention of Needless Surgery

By Roger Batchelder.

SOME customs are all right. For instance, the little free-for-all that rarely fails to follow the festive christening or wedding adds zest to the occasion and provides the chief requirement of this free-for-all—action. And the Jewish custom of noodle soup at dinner time, and the Italian rite with the bottle of red ink—all are excellent. But there is such a thing as carrying a custom too far, or, as it happened at Essex Market Court, cutting it too short. Judge Prothingham was the arbiter on this occasion, and he decreed that henceforth, in spite of the Sicilian custom, a cat's tail shall be inviolate, and not subject to amputation or excision when pussy has dandruff. This is also a good ad. for the soap manufacturers.

Joseph Ferrone, son of the land of "Anunnzio," has a fish store at the corner of 11th Street and First Avenue, where the Italian section gives way to the Jewish. Joseph owns several cats, which guard the place faithfully at night. But one day Joseph noticed that one of the tabbies, Garibaldi, by name, was molting, or shedding.

"It looks like dandruff," said Joseph. "We must operate."

Garibaldi was assured that everything would be all right in a few moments, and was suspended in the air by a rope the other end of which was held by a spectator. Garibaldi kicked and spit, but without avail, for the old custom just had to be followed. Joseph took a fish knife and with great adroitness sliced off eight inches of Garibaldi's rudder. He threw the caudal excerpt into the old fish barrel, released the indignant feline, and turned around to wait on

Mrs. Binella Korn, who had entered the shop when the celebration was at its height and had seen the whole affair.

Mrs. Korn has several cats of her own and has a tender feeling for them. Though she disapproved heartily of the actions of the impromptu surgeon, she said nothing at the time, but asked for some old fish for her cat. Joseph told her to help herself in the old fish barrel and Mrs. Korn gratefully removed the tail, wrapped it up in paper and took it as evidence to the animal society with the four long names.

Officer McGowan was assigned to the case. He interviewed Joseph and tried to interview Garibaldi, who had hidden himself behind a barrel of swordfish in the cellar. Joseph is alleged to have told the animal cop that it was an old Italian custom to amputate superfluous decorations of Kitty when they were likely to be stepped on. Officer McGowan then brought Joseph to the grand old temple of justice, charged with cruelty to animals.



"The cat was hanging from a rope like a piece of washline when they cut off its tail," testified Mrs. Korn. "When I said 'How would you like to get your finger cut off for an old Italian custom?' Joseph just laughed at me, like this," and Mrs. Korn gave a successful imitation.

Joseph did not speak English, he said, but through an interpreter he explained that the cop was all wrong. The Italian custom, he declared, was to cut off a cat's tail when it had the mange. A cure was certain to follow.

But Judge Prothingham refused to be caught on the technicalities of Italian customs. He praised Mrs. Korn's kind heart, and believed what the animal cop told him. "Mange soap would be much more effective, legal and proper," he told Joseph. "Fifteen dollars or three days in the City Prison."

The animal cop wrapped up the tail, which had been marked "Evidence A," and put it in his pocket. Joseph viewed the iron bars reflectively and paid the fifteen dollars.

RELIEF FOR PALESTINE.

Christian Scientists Raising Fund for Holy Land War Sufferers.

Members of the Christian Science Church have organized the Committee of Christian Scientists for the Relief of Jerusalem, at room 1212, Aeolian Building, No. 29 West 42d Street. Their purpose is to collect funds and clothing for the people of Palestine, regardless of race or religion, and to co-operate with the Anglo-American Society and the Joint Advisory Committee of Relief in Jerusalem. The Germans and Turks when evacuating the country carried away everything of value they could lay their hands on, leaving many thousands destitute.

The committee will welcome contributions of shoes and all kinds of woolen and cotton clothing, old or new. These should be sent to the committee's care, room 1212, Aeolian Building. Money or checks should be sent to Mrs. Winifred W. Gatliff, Treasurer, at the same address.

HONOR FOR A PROPHET.

That is, De Voe Will Not Be With- out It If He Made a True Weather Prediction.

A lot of people are going to No. 23 West 42d Street to-night to find out whether Andrew J. De Voe—"Prof. De Voe" they call him at his home in Hack-

ensack—is a real prophet or not. On the 8th of September De Voe wrote out his prediction of to-day's weather, Dec. 8, and handed it over to the American Institute of the City of New York. It is sealed, and the seal will be broken until the meeting to-night. And De Voe will be there to lecture, to tell them how he guessed it—if he did.



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MADISON AVENUE - FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Thirty-fourth Street

Thirty-fifth Street

A Sale of Chiffon Velvet Hand Bags

for to-morrow (Tuesday) will suggest an inexpensive solution of the gift problem. The bags are unusually attractive; the prices (below actual worth) will be

\$2.90, 3.50 & 5.00

Three different models will be offered in this Sale, some of plain and others of moire chiffon velvet. Each model is fitted with inside frame pocket and mirror, and may be obtained in brown, taupe or black.

(Sale on the First Floor)

Special Price Reductions

having been made in the Sweater Department, unusually attractive values are offered in

Sweaters, Scarfs and Caps

for Women and Misses; including

Slip-over Sweaters of light-weight wool (a limited number) . . . reduced to \$4.75

Brushed Wool Scarfs; block design, in contrasting colors . . . reduced to \$5.75

Brushed Wool Scarfs, in rose or Copenhagen, with fancy colored stripes; reduced to . . . \$1.75

Tams to match these striped scarfs reduced to . . . \$1.50

Brushed Wool Tams, in green or blue heather mixture . . . reduced to \$1.75

Brushed Wool Caps, in various colors; reduced to . . . \$2.50

Also

Girls' Brushed Wool Sweaters

reduced to . . . \$3.75

Girls' Brushed Wool Caps, to match the sweaters . . . reduced to 75c

(Department on the Third Floor)

A Tuesday and Wednesday Sale of Decorative Linens

will present an opportunity for buying desirable holiday gifts at moderate cost.

These are exceptional values:

Linen Tea Napkins, hemstitched

per dozen . . . \$6.00

Linen Scarfs, trimmed with hand-made Cluny each . . . \$5.25, 5.75 & 6.75

Linen Luncheon Sets (cream color) scalloped and embroidered in blue, green or brown; thirteen pieces . . . per set \$4.50

Madeira Hand-embroidered Linens

(hand-scalloped)

Luncheon Sets (thirteen pieces)

per set . . . \$6.00, 7.75 & 8.75

Tea Napkins . . . per dozen 8.75 & 9.75

Centerpieces . . . each 3.75, 4.25, 4.75

Scarfs . . . each 6.00, 6.75, 7.50, 8.75

Many appealing gift suggestions will be found in the regular stock, at prices to suit all incomes.

(Linen Department, Fourth Floor)

A Special Offering of All-linen Handkerchiefs

(several hundred dozen of the better qualities, for Men and Women)

will take place to-morrow (Tuesday) on the First Floor

The values are very special

Men's All-linen Handkerchiefs

Hemstitched, per doz. \$3.50, 4.70 & 5.50

Tape-bordered . . . per half-dozen 5.25

Women's Sheer All-linen Handkerchiefs

Hemstitched or tape-bordered

per dozen . . . \$2.85, 3.90 & 6.00

Initialed . . . per half-dozen 1.75 & 2.50

Hand-embroidered and hemstitched or scalloped . . . each 50c

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Bath Robes

(as illustrated)

Special

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Robes of Genuine Beacon Blanket in floral design. Satin bound collar, cuffs and pocket. Cord Girdle.

"Kayser's" Union Suits

Ribbed Lisle Union Suits, band tops, tight knee; fully reinforced. Regular and extra sizes.

Special 85c

Philippine Underwear

Nightgowns and Chemises, hand sewn and hand embroidered.

Special 2.95

Silk Chemises

Hand-embroidered and lace trimmed Chemises, in Georgette, Satin and Crepe de Chine.

Special 3.95

Boudoir Slippers

Crocheted Slippers, in pink, light blue, open, rose, lavender and gray combined with white. Bow and turnback cuffs. Sizes 4 to 8.

Special 1.00

Wash Satin Bodices

Tailored, lace trimmed and embroidered models; ribbon, lace or regulation shoulder straps.

Special 2.00

Wash Satin Bloomers

Tailored and lace trimmed models; fully reinforced. Flesh only.

Special 3.50

Wash Satin Petticoats

Attractive models in Flesh and White. Deep flounce, elaborately lace trimmed.

Special 3.95

Boudoir Caps

Several dainty models in all-over lace, net or satin trimmed with ribbons and rosebuds. Pink, Light Blue, Rose and Orchid.

Special 1.00

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